



The Gleaner.

Vol. V.

No. 2

MARCH, 1905

CONTENTS

EDITORIALS

RECENT SCIENCE: AGRICULTURE

THE Sentry

?

THE BABCOCK TEST

THE SPRINTER

MODERN SOIL-FEEDING METHODS

OUR ICE CROP

NOTES BY THE WAY

HIT OR MISS

ATHLETICS

SCHOOL NOTES

CLASS AND CLUB

EXCHANGES

Published Monthly by the Students of The National Farm School.

Photography by Appointment

MR. ELIAS GOLDENSKY

270 South Second St., Philadelphia, Pa.



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NATIONAL FARM SCHOOL, MARCH, 1905

No. 2

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Payable in advance

Address all business communications to
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Entered in the Post Office at Farm School, Pa.
as second-class matter.

EDITORIALS

Mr. David Serber, who had so ably filled the office of Editor-in-Chief for the past six months, found it, for various private reasons, necessary to hand in his resignation. Mr. Serber's resignation came to the student body somewhat as a sudden and heavy blow, for to the very moment before he submitted his resignation nothing had been heard in regard to any such intentions on his part. The loss to the staff of so able a man is very keenly felt, and many regrets have been expressed regarding his loss.

The vacancy made by Mr. Serber's resignation has been filled for the remainder of the scholastic year by the election of Rudolph Kysela to the vacant office. He at once assumed charge of his new office, and will in the future do all in his power to promote the welfare of THE GLEANER.

It was with sincere regret that the students learned of the death of Rev. Adolph Mayer, the father of Rev. Eli Mayer, who each week delivers a discourse before the students in our little chapel. We extend our sympathies to both Rev. Mayer and the remainder of the family in their late bereavement.

As usual, whenever an election of any kind is being carried on, the students split up into two factions, voting for one or the other of the candidates, not because in their own estimation the candidate they cast their vote for is better, but simply because some one else votes for that candidate and influences them to do likewise. It is quite certain that boys who are not capable of voting or judging for themselves in such petty and trifling matters as school elections will never develop into such American citizens as are to be trusted with so serious a matter as the ballot in our national elections. Cultivate the habit of being an independent voter and pay little attention to what the other fellow may try to drum into you, for the vote is yours, and you alone should dispose of it according to your own judgment. If on any occasion you are in doubt as to which candidate to cast your vote for, do not vote at all, for it may be just your one doubtful vote that is going to give the undesirable candidate the office, when, as often is the case, unceasing trouble is likely to be the result.

Recent Science: Agriculture

What a striking contrast between the man that walked behind the plow a century ago, and the man of the same occupation of to-day!

In comparing both characters, it would seem just to draw our conclusion by contrasting both ambitions, but the ambitions of the farmer a century ago and the farmer of to-day are so diametrically opposed to each other that it would almost seem impossible to draw a conclusion; yet a few facts concerning the ambitions of both are noteworthy of comparison.

The arrogant farmer of the twentieth century looks upon the farmer of a century ago as a trained animal, to do as he was taught to do and nothing more.

The old-time farmer worked without regard for science, or higher practical methods, for the betterment of his land. He worked automatically; he planted the same crops his father planted, and in the same place, if necessary, as long as he tilled his land. In fact, he would achieve the zenith of his ambition if he only did what his grandfather and father did before. Besides bequeathing to his son his land, etc., the parent bequeathed to him the same superstitious ideas that he was wont to carry with him during his lifetime.

But what of the farmer of to-day? He aspires to still higher and nobler achievements; his ambition is to learn as much as possible while studying, then, after leaving the institution, he establishes a farm suited to his own ideas.

The young men of to-day flock to the agricultural colleges, and as a result, they have made agriculture a science. The total enrollment of young men in colleges to-day shows an increase of almost double that of a decade ago.

The farmer of to-day is rewarded in his endeavors in the agricultural line by his aspiration to the zenith of the agricultural man, the "Portfolio of Agriculture," which was inaugurated not only for the ultimate goal of men prominent in the agricultural eye, but to demonstrate the marked development of agriculture of the present day.

Pre-eminent among those who have lived and worked for the cause, and who have sacrificed the better part of their lives by benefiting the world with their knowledge of this science, stand Hon. James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture; Professor L. H. Bailey, and others. It is outside the scope of this journal to deal with the individual biography of these men, but a brief summary of their advancement is practicable.

James Wilson, the grand old man of the Cabinet, demonstrated to the agricultural world the qualities of good farm training. His whole life has been devoted to the betterment of that science. And in no way could the agricultural world show its appreciation of his endeavors more than by electing him to fill the agricultural part of the Cabinet. His rise was as rapid as it was successful. Mr. Wilson still continues in good health to execute the functions of that office.

L. H. Bailey has contributed to the world the best books on agricultural science. His completion of the Encyclopedia of Horticulture could show no better testimonial of his genius.

Besides filling the chair of agriculture at Cornell, he is editor of several periodicals, and still continues the writing of books treating on different subjects in agriculture.

Although agriculture is still in its prime, the accomplishments during the past decades show its increase with astounding rapidity.

LOUIS CONDOR, '06.

The Sentry

The night is dark; no moon, no stars; the glorious skies are hung with heavy gray clouds. No light, no life, is to be seen. Everything is so quiet in nature that it seems as if all were dead. But there in the midst of the boundless fields, far from human sight, left all alone to brood and worry in this unknown desert, stepping forward, then retracing the steps, a man's shadow moves steadily.

Who is that, who, without fear and indifferent to the dear life, dares to provoke the wild hyena and the appetite of the hungry

wolf? Clad in a uniform, with a rifle on his shoulder and with a revolver at his hips, the man stops at every few paces and directs his attention into the black wilderness. The brass buttons of his dirty and dusty uniform would give him away to his enemy, but his rifle, with its triangular bayonet, is a firm and unceasing friend. There down in the valley his comrades are peacefully reposing, sleeping upon hard ground after a day's hard marching over swamps, marshes and long sandy deserts, under the direct rays of the scorching sun.

His thoughts, however, are now far away from this scene of deadly loneliness; his thoughts lead him back to his native village, where he sees his beloved wife praying to the Lord, to grant her the life of the father of her innocent children. Meanwhile torrents of tears are streaming down her mournful but still beautiful face. In the other room, he sees his innocent children resting happily, with angelic smiles on their rosy faces. They dream about dolls and other toys, thus increasing the sufferings of the poor woman.

. . . The man stands still for a minute, resting heavily upon the rifle, his faithful friend; the features of his face are drawn and sad. . . .

Hark! Where does that suspicious noise come from? Death to those who dare to interrupt him in his sacred thoughts. He is ready to check any attempt from the shielding darkness. Everything is again quiet, and silence reigns in the valley. A shudder passes over him as he executes a shoulder arms, and steps off to make the rounds. While he is boldly stepping forward, another man's figure appears in the darkness. With a dagger between his teeth, the figure, with eyes sparkling in the darkness like two pieces of red-hot coal, was stealthily following up the poor victim, as skillfully and noiselessly as a tiger. The suspicious noise is heard again, but this time more clearly. The sentry concentrated his attention on a dark spot between two cliffs. The rifle is quickly brought up to the shoulder, and the loud report of the discharge echoes and re-echoes among the hills, and dies away in the valley where his comrades sleep unsuspectingly. At the instant when he was again about to fire, the crouching figure leaps forward and, with a fierce lunge, plunges the dagger into the breast of the poor wretch. The rifle drops from his hands, and with a groan the faithful guard falls face forward, mortally wounded. . . .

For a moment he opens his eyes. He tries to rise, but he is so feeble that he can not. . . . From the valley the faint sounds of the national anthem seem to fill his ears. . . .

MAYER GREEN, '07.

?

Will affection still enfold me,
When the day of life declines;
When old age, with ruthless vigor,
Plows my face in furrowed lines;
When the eye forgets its seeing,
And the hand forgets its skill,
And the very words prove rebel
To the mind's once kingly will?

When the deaf ear, strained to listen,
Scarcely hears the open word,
And the unfathomed depths of feeling
Are by no swift current stirred;
When fond memory, like a limner,
Many a line perspective casts;
Spreading out our bygone pleasures
On the canvas of the Past?

When the leaping blood grows sluggish,
And the fire of Youth has fled;
When the friends who now surround us
Half are numbered with the dead;
When the years appear to shorten,
Scarcely leaving us a trace;
When old Time with bold approaches
Marks his dial on my face?

When our present hopes, all gathered,
Lie like dead flowers on our track;
When the whole of our existence
Is one fearful looking back;
When each wasted hour of talent,
Hardly measured now at all,
Sends its witness back to haunt us,
Like the writing on the wall?

When the ready tongue is palsied,
And the form is bowed with care;
When our only hope is Heaven
And our only help is prayer;
When our idols, broken 'round us,
Fall amid the ranks of men;
Until death uplifts the curtain,
Will thy love endure till then?

—ANON.

The Babcock Test

To the student of scientific agriculture, the Babcock Tester is a very familiar machine; but to the general run of farmers and city folks, the apparatus is practically unknown. Those persons to whom it is unknown would be surprised to hear that the Babcock Tester is the apparatus which has, to a great extent, helped to revolutionize the dairy industry of the United States.

By means of the Babcock Tester, the boards of health of our cities are able to determine whether the milk which is sold in them has been adulterated with water. In some cities, the lactometer, an instrument by means of which the specific gravity of milk is determined, is used to some extent, but some experienced and clever milkmen, who are acquainted with the composition of milk, are able to extract some of the cream or fat from the milk, and add enough water to the remaining milk without changing the specific gravity of the milk adulterated. You can readily see that the lactometer is not a very practical instrument to use for testing milk. Other means are also employed for the same purpose, but none of them answers as well in efficiency as the Babcock Tester.

The quality of milk is always determined by the quantity of fat contained in it, the other constituents of the milk being always present in proportion to the amount of fat. The larger the per cent. of fat in milk, the more valuable it is, for so much more butter can be made from it, because about eighty-five per cent. of the butter is composed of this fat.

The Babcock Tester has been devised for the purpose of determining the per cent. of fat in a given quantity of milk. The fact that fat is lighter than the rest of the milk has been employed by Dr. Babcock, the inventor of the machine, as a basis for operation. A centrifugal machine, with cups into which to put the bottles, is used to make the test. The first important step in testing milk is the taking of the sample. The milk must be thoroughly mixed before taking a sample, as milk that has been standing for a few minutes without being stirred will not be uniform throughout in the amount of fat. To insure uniformity, the milk is poured from one vessel into another three or four times, in this way thoroughly mixing it. Then a pipette is used to take a sample of seventeen and six-tenths cubic centimeters of the milk, this being the quantity necessary to make the test. This quantity was determined by the inventor, after considerable experimenting, to be the most convenient to use. From the so-called pipette, or measure, the milk is put into a testing bottle, the neck of which is

graduated into ten per cent. of the quantity of milk, these one per cent. marks being again divided to such a fraction as two-tenths of one per cent. Next a small glass graduate is used to measure out seventeen and five-tenths cubic centimeters of sulphuric acid. The acid is poured into the test bottle containing the milk to be tested, and both are thoroughly mixed. The sulphuric acid decomposes everything but the fat in the milk, and this fat is liberated from the remainder of the material.

The test bottles containing the samples of different kinds of milk are all set into the cup-like receptacles in the centrifugal machine, the lid is closed, and the bottles are then whirled around at the rate of from nine to twelve hundred revolutions per minute. The power is either applied by hand in the hand-operated tester, or by steam to the steam turbine tester. The latter's motion, however, is more uniform and better results are obtained. The whirling is done in order to bring all the fat in the sample of milk to the surface. The fat being considerably lighter than the other constituents of milk, and receiving the same amount of revolutions as the others, by law of physics is thrown the least distance, and therefore remains the nearest to the centre of the machine, for the bottles during the process of whirling assume a horizontal position.

After the bottles have been whirled for five minutes, the machine is stopped, and warm water is added to the solution in the bottles. They are again whirled for two minutes, and sufficient water is then added to bring the floating fat into the graduated neck of the bottle. This is again followed by another minute's whirling. All the fat has by this time completely risen into the graduated neck of the bottle. A pair of dividers are then employed in reading the percentage of fat.

Any other product composed of milk constituents, such as cream, butter, cheese, etc., can also be tested by the same means, but different quantities are used for the various samples. Thus the value of our cows is determined, by using the Babcock Tester for ascertaining the percentage of butter fat in their milk.

J. RATNER, '05.

Down the corridor she wildly flew;
In gasping sobs her breath she drew.
Never did trackman so swiftly speed,
Never stood mortal in more dire need.
Who says 'tis not so is indeed a knocker,
For horrors, she's found a mouse in her locker!—Ex.

The Sprinter

"Go to your marks; get set," and the crack of the pistol sent the six sturdy runners off, each to defend his own dear Alma Mater. Williams, the crack runner for the Blues, had about thirty yards' lead at the first turn, when suddenly every person in the stands rose to see what the commotion was about at the turn. Some one had fallen. "Oh! never mind," remarked the people in the Reds' stand, when they realized that it was Sanders who had fallen; "he could not do much even if he had not fallen."

It was a bright, pleasant Saturday afternoon in May at Greenwood, the attraction being a track meet between the Reds and the Blues. The event that the two colleges were engaged in just then was the four-forty-yard dash. Connell, who was captain of the Reds' team, had been counted on to be the victor in this event, for his team mates, Johnston and Sanders, were not considered to be very good runners, especially Sanders. Williams, the crack quarter-mile runner of the Blues, was the mainstay of that team, and his superiority was greatly feared in this race. The score stood 50 to 46 in favor of the Blues, and this event was to decide the meet. Connell was considered nearly as good as Williams, but with a thirty-yard start on the part of the Blues, the hearts of the Reds sank.

On dashed the runners past the two-twenty mark, Williams leading by some fifteen yards; Connell was next, and after him came Johnston, with Sanders lagging behind the leader some forty yards, being the last of the runners. At the three-hundred mark, Sanders succeeded in moving into fourth place, just about twenty yards behind Williams.

Excitement now reigned and each stand was sending forth thundering cheers, as the men ran on.

Suddenly, Williams, who was an experienced runner, turned and looked back. Sanders saw his chance, and by shooting forward with a sudden burst of speed, he passed Johnston, passed Connell and came up to Williams; here he ran side by side with Williams, before the latter seemed to realize what a grave error he had made. The Reds' stand was now cheering and shrieking, but the Blues were silent. Neck and neck they ran past the four-twenty mark, when Sanders, who had sprinted from the three-hundred mark, shot forward and crossed the tape half a yard ahead of Williams, Connell coming in five yards back of him. The Reds won the day, through Sanders' great piece of headwork. Such cheering and such a cele-

bration as followed will never be forgotten by the standbys of the Reds. All night the one phrase that reigned supreme was, "Sanders the Sprinter."

H. F., Jr., '07.

Modern Soil-Feeding Methods

The earth, like a person, must be fed, nourished and cared for. If crops are grown on it for many years, and the plant foods that the crops remove from it are not replaced, the land loses its fertility, and fails to produce crops that pay.

The plant food that is taken out of the soil by plants and must be replaced is nitrogen, phosphorus and potash. The most important and expensive of these elements is nitrogen.

All life depends upon nitrogen, the gas that comprises four-fifths of the air we breathe. Wheat as it grows absorbs the nitrogen compounds of the soil. When we eat the bread, we find in it the substance that sustains life and imparts vigor.

Even though nitrogen gas comprises four-fifths of the air, it is of no value to plants until it combines with other substances in air and water.

The nitrogen fertilizer supply has been in the past and is at present coming from South America, in the form of guano and salt-petre, but scientists inform us that these beds will soon be exhausted; unless relief comes, general famine will begin all over the earth.

But the world is not destined to starve, for science is ready for this emergency, and has already discovered two new methods of replacing the nitrogen of the soil.

The first method is taking nitrogen from the air by decomposing it with powerful electric flashes, and then combining it with sodium, thus making sodium nitrate. In the other method employed, scientists cultivate bacteria, which, when scattered on the seed or on the soil, enable the transformation of nitrogen from the air into nitrates in the ground. Nature has had these bacteria working ever since leguminous plant life began.

Farmers have known for a long time that when crimson clover, vetch, peas, beans and other leguminous plants were grown on worn-out land, these crops would restore it to fertility. But how these plants were capable of doing this no one knew. However, the German scientist Hellrigel, after much study, found that the swellings or nodules on the leguminous plants, which other botanists thought to be a disease of some kind, are products of bacteria which are found in the soil.

Professor Noble then took up the subject, and found that bacteria are the real soil food-restorers; he at once thought of cultivating this bacteria, and then supplying it directly to worn-out land.

To accomplish this, he collected some nodule-covered roots; these he dried and ground to a powder. The powder he mixed with a good bacteria-cultivating material, and in a short time he had a wonderful crop of all kinds of bacteria.

The scientist had already identified the nitrogen-gathering bacteria, and Professor Noble proceeded to separate these from the mass, and to cultivate them separately, thus making a clear culture. He soon had millions of the needed bacteria. He then proceeded to experiment to test the bacteria. Preparing three separate lots of carefully sterilized sand, he placed in one a number of his bacteria; in another, saltpetre, or sodium nitrate, which contains nitrogen, and into the third he put no nitrogenous substance at all. He then planted beans in the three boxes, giving all the boxes equal attention, watering them with sterilized water, so that no germs of any kind could find their way into the boxes. The seeds sprouted and grew in all three boxes, alike in appearance for the first week's growth. Then the plants in the box which had no nitrogen in it began to wilt, and soon died, being starved for lack of nitrogenous food. The plants in the box containing the saltpetre grew as ordinary plants grow, subsisting on the nitrogen supplied by the saltpetre. The plants in the box which contained only sand and bacteria showed a remarkable growth. Thus the theory has been proven, that the bacteria really accomplish the desired result.

A great many experiments were then tried with various plants, and it was found that wherever sufficient potash and phosphoric acid were present in the soil, leguminous plants supplied with their respective bacteria have the power of assimilating large amounts of nitrogen from the air.

The United States Department of Agriculture has now a large laboratory in Washington, where this clear bacteria culture is made.

The cultures are sent free to any farmer in the United States who applies for them. A sample box contains three packages done up in tin foil. In one package there is a wad of cotton, on which the bacteria culture has been dried. The other packages contain nutrient salts, which are for the greater part magnesium sulphate, potassium sulphate or ammonium phosphate, with a small mixture of sugar to solidify and hold the cultures. A sheet of instructions accompanies each package of bacteria.

When the cultures come to the farmer, he dissolves the nutrient salts in a half gallon of water, at the ordinary temperature. The wad of cotton containing the culture is then placed in the solution, then being allowed to stand for twenty-four hours. The solution by that time becomes milky white. There are two methods by means of which culture may be applied—first, to spread the seed evenly on a table, and then sprinkling the solution over the seed; then allowing it to dry, the seeds are sown as usual. The other method is to take a quantity of soil from a sunny place and sprinkle it with the solution. The soil is then scattered broadcast over the land that is to be inoculated, and later seeded.

The electrical decomposition method (before mentioned) was invented by Charles S. Bradley and his associate, D. R. Loveloy. Their problem was to devise a large number of electric arcs in a small space, so that a quantity of air could be forced through continuously, and its nitrogen and oxygen chemically united, to form nitric and nitrous acids, these to be combined with soda, to form nitrate of soda.

The inventors started operations at Niagara Falls, where inexhaustible power can be had cheaply; finally they succeeded in devising the proper machine for the work on hand.

Mr. Bradley uses a direct current of ten thousand volts, supplied by a dynamo, with motive power coming from the falls. The apparatus consists mainly of an air-tight box of metal, inside of which revolves a hollow shaft on which are over one hundred sparkling points, which flash rapidly as the shaft revolves. Air is let into the box at one point, and emerges from another laden with nearly three per cent. of oxides of nitrogen.

The gas is then set free from the air, by a process of absorption; it is then brought into contact with caustic soda, thus forming nitrate of soda. By this method nitric acid is made for a cent and a half per pound, of such a quality as is now on the market for five cents.

P. KRINZMAN, '06.

We always laugh at teachers' jokes,
No matter how bad they may be!
Not because they are real funny folks,
But because it's policy.

Our Ice Crop

The modern farmer finds a regular job each winter, in the storing away of ice for his personal use. The dairymen especially are the ones who absolutely cannot do without it. They use ice for keeping their milk and cream cool during the hot days of summer, and ice is also given a place in the refrigerator in the home. I will endeavor to give an account of the operations found necessary to fill up our ice house this winter.

The preparing of all the tools, such as ice tongs, ice plow, pikes, chisels and saws, was the first thing to be considered. At the ice pond, a wooden platform on a level with the bottom of the wagons was erected on its bank. All the ice, before being loaded, is first put on this platform, which makes it comparatively easy loading.

A chute leading from this platform to the ice was then erected, inclining at an angle of about forty-five degrees. A channel of some three hundred yards' length, and wide enough to float a twenty-two-inch cake of ice, without jamming, was then cut out of the ice leading from the chute, the lower end of which rests in the water, down the ice pond to where the ice is being cut.

We then proceed to cut the ice. A horse shod with sharp calks was hitched to the ice plow, which is a saw-like contrivance, with all the teeth pointing to the front; on it is also to be found attached a marker, which marks out the next row parallel to the one which is being cut. The plow is used to cut the same row three or four times, depending upon the thickness of the ice, before it is cut deep enough; then it becomes necessary to stop, for the safety of both horse and man. The saws are then put into play, by cutting crosswise the long partly cut block of ice into pieces of twenty-two inches square. As soon as these are cut, they are immediately floated up the channel towards the chute, where the two boys stationed on each side of the chute hook the cake of ice with their pikes, and rush it half way up the chute, where two other boys quickly hook the cake, and run it up on the platform. Running the ice up this chute is the hardest work on the ice job, for some of the ice cakes weigh over one hundred and fifty pounds, and it requires quite a display of muscle power to keep at the job all day. The strongest boys are on this account selected for this part of the operation.

Wagons backed up to the platform are on hand ready to be loaded with the ice. Ice tongs are then put into play in loading the wagons. When the wagon is heavily loaded, it holds some twenty-five cakes, the gross weight of which is about a ton and a

half. The load is then hauled to the ice house, which is unfortunately situated some two miles from the pond.

At the pond the ice-cutting operation is carried on with an automatic-like movement—the plow is cutting, some boys are sawing, others floating the ice, and still others are running it up the chute; thus the operation continues uninterruptedly from morning till night.

When the ice arrives at the ice house, it is unloaded and packed away into it as tightly as possible. In order not to have air spaces between cakes, small pieces of ice are used to fill all chinks and air spaces between the cakes. After the ice house is filled, the ice is completely covered with sawdust, all air spaces on the top and on the sides being also tightly filled in with the same non-heat-conducting sawdust.

Thus our ice crop is harvested, and we can look with pleasure, during the hot summer days, at the two or three hundred tons of ice stored in our ice house, which is invaluable when needed.

* *Notes by the Way* *

Seen and Heard by an Alumnus.

Disappointed Citizens

A policeman was running. An unusual spectacle, and naturally it attracted considerable attention. "Considerable attention" is too mild a term, when it is remembered that this happened shortly after the six o'clock whistles announced the close of the workday. As the rapidly moving mass of flesh, bones and bluecoat sped in a northerly direction the crowd followed. Bicyclists hastened their speed; those engaged in deep conversation suddenly cried, "Oh, look!" and sedate business men paused in their homeward trend to watch the fleeting policeman. On, on, he sped, waving his natural arms in the direction of a rapidly moving north-bound car. The crowd was not slow in seconding the motion and they cried: "Hey, there! stop the car, stop the car!" An intelligent conductor; he ordered the car stopped. The panting policeman reached it; one bound and he was on the platform. Instantly a hand was placed in the spacious pocket of his coat-tail, and a red bandana was drawn forth. He removed his helmet and wiped the sweat from its inner band. Then he replaced the helmet. All this in a shorter space of time than it took to tell of it. His next move was to settle himself comfortably against the railing of the back platform, presumably to better enjoy the scenery. Ding,

ding, and the car sped on. The crowd showed their disappointment in various ways. A news kid exclaimed: "Gee, t'ought a feller was goin' to git pinched, sure." Some felt sheepish, while others who always enjoy a good joke, even though it be on themselves, laughed loud and went on. Still others walked several squares or blocks out of their way, pretending that they were going in that direction anyway.

Too Bad for the Canine

Surely, the street car is a democratic institution; leastwise, up north it is. Within, high and low, rich and poor, meet on an equal plane; all are expected to dig in and hand out the nickel or car ticket, and to read the advertisements opposite. And it is a generally accepted proposition that we are entitled to but one seat, or, other things being equal, to sufficient cubic space to accommodate our anatomy with some degree of comfort, even if we have to stand for it, or hang onto the leather strap: Something took place some time ago which showed how democratic is the average American. Every seat in the car was occupied. It must be borne in mind that each seat or chair will furnish seating capacity for two individuals, although not without their clothes coming in more or less contact. One chair was occupied by a young lady, and judging by her manners and dress, she surely ranked 399 in the noble "400." She was dressed in that rich, gorgeous stuff a sane man would hate to touch anyway. Beside her reposed, if the jolting car allowed such a thing, a silver-haired poodle, all bound 'round with ribbons and other finery. Just then a traveling man boarded the car. Entering, he immediately made a bolt for, what appeared to be, the only vacant seat. But he was met with a cold stare from Miss 399, and she instinctively held out her hand as if to protect her poodle. The traveler did not further intrude. He remained standing. At the next corner a grimy workman got on and he, too, made a bee line for the supposedly only vacant seat. The young lady was on the lookout. Evidently she expected no such consideration from an ordinary workman as she had received from the traveler, so she motioned to the well-dressed traveling man to take the seat, at the same time placing the silver-haired canine in her lap. However, instead of taking the proffered seat, the traveler motioned to the workman in a sort of "after you, my dear Gaston" fashion to take it. While our Alfonso and Gaston were going through their Frenchy performance, the young lady, thinking to head off any such move contemplated by the traveling man, replaced the poodle in its original place. What happened next? If the dear

little poodle could only talk! But he did yelp, and such yelping and squealing you never heard in your life. The stupid laborer sat on the dog, and he sat down hard, too. I suppose the dog was compensated somewhat by the shower of kisses he received from his mistress after she extricated him from his precarious position, and as truth must be told, she kissed the wrong end in her confusion. However, the sweet thing got off the car in a short time, carrying her darling, a little worse after his experience, in her arms, and without as much as glancing at the traveling man, who tried to appear truly sorry.

HIT OR MISS

MAX MORRIS, '05, Editor.

Professor Halligan (in Horticulture)—Mention some plants distributed by animals.

Brown, '08—Cow-peas, horse-chestnut, dog-wood, cat-nip, and pussy-willow.

C. Horn, '06 (indignantly)—That's a nice way to come into a room; why didn't you have the porter announce you?

Wind, '08 (smartly)—Well, why didn't *you* announce me?

First Senior—Look at those Freshies eating that grass as if they were goats.

Second Senior—Aw, they're only kids.

Dr. Washburn (in Economics)—What is wealth?

Krinzman, '06—Wealth is storing away future wants.

A fresh little Freshman in botany,
Just wondered if he'd forgotany;
So he opened his book
For one little look,
But as to his marks—he aintgotany.

Frank, '07—What does a cat do when he meets a mouse?

I. Horn, '07—Jumps for joy and then shakes.

Anderson, '07—Mr. Bishop, why hasn't some one studied the speech of poultry?

Mr. Bishop—It is too fowl.

Serber, '05 (reading in Agriculture)—The phenomena of prices of farm crops have been paralyzed (analyzed) with especial care.

Orcutt, '08 (in Class Meeting)—I move that the President and Vice-President be one man, so that when the President is absent the other one may take his place.

IN THE CLOTHES-BASKET.

"Why don't you become sanctified?" asked the shirt.
"I'll be darned if I do," replied the stocking.

The members of the Senior Class are racking their brains in efforts to decide whether they shall become bank presidents, senators or disciples of Dowie.

Rock, '07—What are you doing?

Miller, '07—Nuttin'.

A T H L E T I C S

ABE MILLER, '07, Editor.

On January 23d, a meeting of the Athletic Association was called, for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year. During an unusually quiet election the following officers were elected: P. Krinzman, President; B. Ostrolenk, Vice-President; Louis Rock, Secretary and Treasurer; H. Frank and A. Miller, General Managers.

Last year, after the close of a successful football season, the treasury was left in somewhat of a drained condition. In order to bring it back to a firm financial basis, a motion was made to the effect that the Athletic Association secure permission to put into cultivation an acre of land, on the same principle as last year. The produce of this acre is to be sold, and the funds turned into the treasury. The motion was passed, and the following committee was then chosen by the association to conduct the work: P. Krinzman, chairman; B. Ostrolenk and H. Frank.

Spring Athletics

The manner in which the students are taking to track athletics is very discouraging to those who are interested. We must take hold of the thing with spirit or drop it entirely. Bear in mind that the failure of a track team means a drawback in many other branches

of athletics, for fast men are needed on the diamond, and also on the gridiron. In order to make a success of school athletics, we must first arouse the interest of the student body, and after this we can turn our efforts and attention to the financial part. In any event, unless those who do not personally participate in the game give it hearty support financially, it will certainly become a failure. The success of an athletic team from a schoolboy's point of view depends on the number of games won. This, of course, is the desired goal, and is the one we strive for.

But considering it in a broader sense, success is measured by development of the team from the given material. By displaying fair play and determination to do the best under the circumstances, success will be the result in all our undertakings.

In order to arouse the spirit of all the students, many events will take place in which the students can win their letter. Baseball, running high jump, running broad jump, 100-yard dash, 220-yard run, shot putting, swimming, and tennis will all afford an opportunity for ambitious students.

The following committee was appointed to arrange all the necessities for these events: M. Morris, I. Horn, H. Frank, S. Feinberg and A. Miller.

❖ SCHOOL NOTES ❖

J. RATNER, '05, Editor.

Farm Department

At present, it is the plan of Professor Bishop to raise a flock of Rhode Island Reds this coming spring, and continue the breeding of that breed until enough are raised to fill the poultry houses. Then the present flock, which consists of White Leghorns, Black Minorcas, etc., will be disposed of, and the Rhode Island Reds will be substituted and raised exclusively. By this means, the single breed will be bred to a very high efficiency. A number of highly bred Rhode Island Reds have already been secured to start the working out of the plan. A large number of ducks will also be raised this season.

The incubators have already been started, and many of the students will get an opportunity to care for, and to operate them.

The brooder house will be remodeled. The windows, which are at present on the roof, will be removed, and their gaps built in with boards. The windows will then be put into the side walls. This will make the house much warmer, as the windows are very loose in the roof at present and allow cold air to enter.

A number of the sheep gave birth to lambs. It is very interesting to watch their rapid development, under the attention that is being given to them.

Horticultural Department

A nursery for the raising of hardy trees and shrubs will be established next spring, the product of which will be devoted to the beautifying of our grounds.

Flower seeds have been planted in the greenhouse, from which place they will be removed after development next spring, and distributed for the individual gardens.

In order to allow the students to become acquainted with the different kinds of flowers, Professor Halligan will devote an acre of ground to the growing of a large number of flowers of different varieties.

Tomato plants have been planted into the soil in the lettuce bench of one of the greenhouses. By the time the tomato plants get very large, it will be time for the lettuce to be removed, thus saving a great deal of the valuable time and greenhouse space by growing two crops together, the one not interfering with the other.

The mushroom bed is producing very heavily. The crop is gathered every day, and a decided success has been met with. As this was only an experiment, it is very encouraging.

General

A large sum of money has been expended upon the laboratory this year. In addition to a large number of chemicals, a surveying compass and a new transit have been added. The old transit will be repaired, and during the coming spring the Juniors and the Seniors, who have taken up surveying, will be given an opportunity to practice in leveling and surveying.

Thanks from the individual student are due to Mrs. Starr for her unceasing efforts in securing the comfort of the students. Her promise, when she first came to this place, was that she would try to make our school life more homelike. She has more than carried out her promise, for she has worked hard in fixing up the private rooms, and it seems that nothing else could be secured to make our rooms more comfortable; but as surprises from Mrs. Starr are unceasing, we are on the lookout for them. We take this opportunity of thanking Mrs. Starr for her kind services for the student body.

CLASS AND CLUB

By LOUIS ROCK, '07.

Debating Team

It is a fact that every high school or preparatory school of the present day is represented by some of its ablest students, in the line of oratory, on their respective debating teams. This school, in considering its circumstances and conditions, has not as yet been able to put a team into the field. This question gave rise to some heated discussion in a recent meeting of the Literary Society. When the project was introduced, some of the students seemed to have become frightened at the names of the various institutions with which the Debating Committee determined to arrange debates. Others ridiculed the idea in the light of inexperience of our available candidates, and tried to illustrate the fact that even if a debating team is chosen, the result would be a complete failure.

As a whole, the arguments of the various students were rather discouraging, but I am glad to say that this was only a "stumbling-block to the blind."

Those who conceived the idea, and gave it consideration, have without hesitation arrived at a satisfactory conclusion. They could readily comprehend that training in the line of oratory is of just as much importance as are athletics. It is something which is useful in every-day life, and must be a part of our success; therefore, let us try to develop it. The subject is entirely a new one, and speaks well for the gentleman who introduced it. Although some of the members failed to realize what a good thing it is, in no case did it restrain the students from trying; on the contrary, it impelled them to awaken their interest and grasp the opportunity offered them. Several schools have already been challenged, and favorable replies are expected.

There are only a few students who undertook this debating task, and they have already shown their ability.

Should we succeed in carrying out this plan, and make a success of it, credit would be reflected upon the school and students, and it would, without doubt, be one of the best things that ever took place. So cheer up, boys, and try to give your support. If you are unable, at least try to encourage others towards making it a success.

EXCHANGES

BERNHARD OSTROLENK, '06, EDITOR.

During the past month, exchanges from all parts of the country have been flooding our table. Our limited space does not permit us to enumerate all excellent articles and stories contained therein, but we will content ourselves by mentioning a few of our exchanges, and show our appreciation to the others by sending them **THE GLEANER**.

The Spectator, of the Louisville Male High School, contains some spicy short stories. If their football team plays as well as it appears in the picture, it should be a comparatively easy matter for them to go through a season without defeat.

The Archive, Northeast Manual Training School, devotes very little room to its literary department, while its exchange department occupies an unproportionately large amount of space.

We extend a hearty welcome to *The Ingots*. Much can be said for its improvement, but considering that it was just born a few months ago, it has certainly done well.

The Balance Sheet has a rather unique department for a school journal. It is called "Happenings of the Outside World." It is both instructive and interesting.

The Corona, of Bridgeton, Me., has a good story, entitled "Girls' Opinions of Boys."

"Bumps and Dents," in *The Egypty*, is a department well filled with clever jokes. We also like the story entitled "The Mystery of Phi."

Mary had a little lamb—
The tale is hard to tell—
It ate a stick of dynamite,
Which blew it all to—little bits of pieces.

Some men are born for great things,
Some were born for small,
Some it's not recorded
Why they were born at all.

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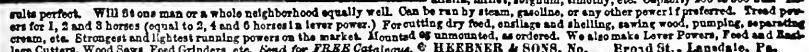
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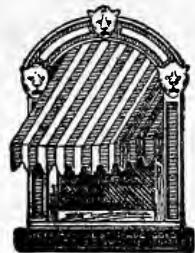
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